

Bloomington, Indiana University, Bloomington, Lilly Library at Indiana University, Ricketts 23

Description: Chertsey Breviary ff. 6 - Not bound. - Benedictine abbey of Saint Peter, Chertsey, Surrey; C. L. Ricketts, who bought 27 leaves from Leighton, Catalogue of Manuscripts, 1912, no. 49 (now Ricketts MS 47) and 6 further leaves from Tregaskis (now Ricketts MS23); acquired by the Lilly Library with the Ricketts Collection in 1961. - De Ricci 1935, pp. 621 and 625; J. R. Graver in 'Catalogue' 1988, pp. 9-13, no. 3; Michael and Morgan 1993, p. 33.

Notes: - See also Ricketts 47. See also Ricketts 23. The Chertsey Breviary dates from the abbacy of John of Rotherwick. When complete, it had well over 500 leaves, with a Calendar, the Temporal, a ferial Psalter, and the Sanctoral. In the early nineteenth century, many of the prettiest initials, fragments of illuminated borders and a few whole leaves were cut out and were acquired by Francis Douce (1757-1834), who bequeathed them to the Bodleian Library in Oxford, where they were pasted into MS Douce d. 13 and MS Douce 381, fol. 126. (In September 1972, these mutilated pieces were removed and were remounted together in a separate small album, now Bodleian, MS Lat. liturg. d. 42.) In the meantime, 10 text leaves were offered for sale by Quaritch, Rough List 176 (1898), no. 7. They had been bound up re-using the sides of the manuscript's sixteenth-century English panel-stamped binding. The fragment was bought by the Bodleian, where it is now MS Lat. liturg. e. 6. It includes most of the manuscript's Calendar, with the anniversaries of the deaths of the abbots of Chertsey as far as Abbot Bartholomew, Rotherwick's predecessor, who died on 15 July 1307. Since these entries are in the hand of the main scribe, they localise the manuscript and furnish a date of not earlier than 1307. The total of known leaves from the Breviary was first increased significantly in 1960 when 158 more leaves (one blank) were acquired by the Bodleian from Martin Breslauer, cat. 92 (1960), no. 28, from the estate of Wilfred Merton, who had himself bought them from Leighton in about 1914. These leaves are now Bodleian, MS Lat. liturg. e. 37. Seven years later, 160 more leaves of the manuscript emerged. They had belonged to William Matthews, c. 1825, and to Alexander Beresford-Hope (his sale, Sotheby's, 23 March 1882, lot 167) and to Lord Saltoun, who acquired them after their sale at Sotheby's, 29 June 1946, lot 108, and then re-sold them at Sotheby's, 10 July 1967, lot 86, where they were bought by Major J. R. Abbey (his JA. 7397), who was then persuaded to re-sell his new acquisition to the Bodleian. These are now Bodleian MS Lat. liturg. e. 36. Thus, a total of 228 leaves as well as an album of cuttings are now all together in the Bodleian, in four portions with four different shelfmarks. This was the position when the Chertsey Breviary was published by Alexander 1974. Soon afterwards, however, 29 more leaves were discovered by James Marrow in the Gleeson Library, University of San Francisco (MS BX 2033 A 2), recognized and published by Sandler 1983 and, with a fuller account of the Bodleian pieces, by Sandler 1986, pp. 70-71, no. 62. Finally, the Lilly Library leaves were recognized as part of the Chertsey Breviary too, apparently first by Michael Michael and W. Gordon Wheeler, and they were described by J. R. Graver in 1988. Ricketts had bought them from two dealers, one of whom, Leighton, had also supplied and bound the Wilfred Merton fragment.

Number of Parts: 1 - *Number of Images Available:* 0

Direct Link: http://ds.lib.berkeley.edu/Ricketts23_40

Language: Latin *Country:* England *Century:* 14th

Part 1: ff. 1-6

Description: - Parchment - 197 x 125 mm - 2 columns, ruled in red ink, 32 lines, each column 145 mm. by 37 mm. with 6 mm. between columns; traces of different sequences of old folio numbers in ink and in pencil (now mostly erased).

Country: England

Cardinal point: southern

Region:

City: London, probably

Assigned Date: s. XIVⁱⁿ

Searchable Date Range: 1307 - 1315

Dated by scribe: No

Inscribed Date:

Document: No

Number of Scribes:

Script: Liturgical textura

Other Decoration: Extensive rubrics in red, versal initials in alternating blue with red penwork and burnished gold with red or pale blue penwork; 2- to 3-line initials throughout in burnished gold on red and blue panel grounds with white tracery.

Notes: The initials for psalms 38, 68 and 80, which were part of this section, are on Bodleian MS Lat. liturg. d. 42, fols. 22-24. The main scribe of Bodleian, MS Lat. liturg. e. 6. (which includes most of the Chertsey Breviary's Calendar, with the anniversaries of the deaths of the abbots of Chertsey as far as Abbot Bartholomew, Rotherwick's predecessor, who died on 15 July 1307) they localise the manuscript and furnish a date of not earlier than 1307. Latin

Number of Texts: 1

Text 1: ff. 1-6

Title: Breviary, Psalter

Language(s): Latin

Notes: Psalter, with psalms 31: 9 to 36: 14, psalms 82: 9 to 85: 2, psalms 87: 13 to 88: 29 and psalms 91: 13 to 94:4.

Status of text: Incomplete